

APPROVED
BOARD OF DENTISTRY
MINUTES
CREDENTIALS COMMITTEE MEETING

TIME AND PLACE: The Credentials Committee convened on March 9, 2007, at 3:55 p.m. at the Department of Health Professions, 6603 W. Broad Street, Richmond, Virginia.

PRESIDING: Misty L. Sissom, R.D.H.

MEMBERS PRESENT: Jeffrey Levin, D.D.S.
Darryl J. Pirok, D.D.S.
Paul Zimmet, D.D.S.

STAFF PRESENT: Sandra K. Reen, Executive Director
Catherine Chappell, Administrative Staff Assistant

QUORUM: All members were present.

PUBLIC COMMENT: None

APPROVAL OF MINUTES: Ms. Sissom asked if the Committee had reviewed the minutes from the February 9, 2007 meeting. Dr. Levin moved that the minutes from the February 9, 2007 meeting be approved as written. The motion was seconded and carried.

**DISCUSSION OF
GUIDELINES FOR
APPROVAL OF DENTAL
RADIATION SAFETY
CERTIFICATION COURSES** Ms. Reen described the current requirements for radiation certification in Regulation 18VAC60-20-195. She referred the Committee to the third provision regarding guidelines provided by the board. Ms. Reen advised that the Department of Health regulations were recently revised which prompted her to review the Board's guidelines.

Ms. Reen noted that for several years, the Board had contracted with a dental hygienist at Old Dominion University to review radiation training programs to determine if the Board's guidelines are met. She noted that the contract she provided is expired but she understood that an administrative extension of the contact was in place.

Ms. Reen explained several concerns she has about the current guidelines and process and requested direction on

how to proceed with updating the guidance document. The concerns were that:

- the Board's current guidance allows training on live patients but the Health regulations specifically prohibit it.
- Program approval is open-ended, once programs are approved there is no further contact needed between the Board and the programs,
- The existing programs may not be aware of the changes in the Health regulations,
- The lack of Board involvement in the program review process, and
- the current guidance document does not give accurate citations for applicable laws and regulations.

Ms. Reen provided a draft revision of the guidelines and a list of programs that have been approved.

The Committee discussed:

- contacting all the approved programs to notify them about the Health regulations
- surveying dentists to obtain information as to where their dental assistants obtained radiation safety certification
- contacting Dr. Carter at the VCU School of Dentistry for input on course content and development of the guidelines
- having the Committee review programs rather than using a consultant
- contacting approved programs every three years for documentation that they meet the requirements outlined in the guidance document.
- Changing the passing score from 70% to 75% to be consistent with grading scales in the dentistry field.

Ms. Reen summarized the guidance she was given was to:

- Determine who is teaching the programs; ask the consultant if lists of approved programs were maintained, check with ECPI, high schools, and other schools by internet searching.
- Draft a letter to all programs, noting the Department of Health updates and required compliance.
- Submit a proposed guidance document to the Board in

June. In the meantime, staff will continue to look at existing programs and contact information.

- Send letter to the courses every three years to determine if the programs are in compliance. Provide the programs with the web address to access the Department of Health regulations
- Confer with Dr. Carter on information to include in the guidance document
- Contact Mr. Casway about the Board's role and authority over the approved programs

Ms. Sissom added that program approval should be assigned to the Credential Committee.

ADJOURNMENT:

With all business concluded, the Committee adjourned at 5:02 p.m.

Misty L. Sissom, R.D.H., Chair

Sandra K. Reen, Executive Director

Date

Date